

U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney Western District of New York

Further inquiries: (716)843-5814

138 Delaware Avenue Buffalo, New York 14202

PRESS RELEASE

May 16, 2005

MAN SENTENCED TO 10 YEARS IMPRISONMENT FOR POSSESSING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

RE: UNITED STATES v. JERRY STEARNS

Michael A. Battle, the United States Attorney for the Western District of New York, announced that Jerry Stearns, age 33, of 35 Spring Street, Seneca Falls, New York, was sentenced by United States District Court Judge David G. Larimer to 10 years imprisonment and placed on 10 years supervised release in connection with his guilty plea on February 4, 2005 to possessing child pornography in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2252A(a)(5), which charges a mandatory minimum term of imprisonment of 10 years and a maximum term of imprisonment of 20 years, a \$250,000 fine, or both.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard A. Resnick, who is handling the case, stated that the defendant on January 8, 2004, the defendant possessed images of child

pornography on a computer. Some of the child pornography images depicted prepubescent children or minors under twelve years old.

The defendant is currently serving a 6-year state sentence of imprisonment for an attempted criminal sexual act, first degree, from Seneca County, New York.

Because of this conviction, the defendant was subject to at least a 10-year sentence in federal court for his possession of child pornography.

The conviction in this case were the culmination of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Peter Ahearn.

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